

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Weather: Wet weather prevailed across the State last week. All weather stations reported precipitation last week except for Bandon. Areas in the Willamette Valley including Aurora and Detroit Lake received over two inches of rainfall last week, while Tillamook reported almost 4 inches. Fourteen weather stations received over an inch of rain last week. Low temperatures were mostly in the thirties and forties. However, the south central and eastern parts of the State reported low temperatures in the twenties. Highs were mostly in the seventies and eighties

Field Crops: Rain late in the week slowed fall fieldwork in many areas. As of October, 16 percent of the winter wheat had been planted and 5 percent had emerged. The rain increased topsoil moisture supplies and improved fall seeding conditions across the State. In Washington County, red clover harvest was nearly complete and field corn harvest for silage continued as weather permitted. Field cultivation, fertilization and small grain seeding continued in Wasco County. Voles have been a significant pest in many Willamette Valley grass seed fields.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures in western Oregon received some much needed precipitation last week. Fall grass is off to a slow start, but with the recent rain and some warmer temperatures producers were optimistic that pastures would start to green up again. Dry conditions persisted across most of eastern Oregon. Many areas have not received significant precipitation since early July and pasture conditions continued to dwindle. Fall round up of cattle from higher rangeland elevations continued. Livestock were in good condition throughout the State.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Limited out of State nursery shipments were underway. Sales were picking up for fall planting of trees and shrubs. Greenhouses and nurseries were doing weed control and fertilizing.

Vegetables: Summer vegetables, corn, tomatoes, peppers, summer squash, and cucumbers were still available. Fall vegetables such as onions and winter squash were showing up at roadside stands. Benton, Linn, and Lane counties reported that the colder weather and some frost caused minor damage to the fall vegetable crop. Local pumpkin patch operators were preparing their corn mazes for the Halloween season in Clackamas County. Washington County sweet corn growers continued to send their crop to processors. Onion harvest stopped until the ground settled in Malheur County. Potato harvest continued across the central and eastern part of the State.

Fruits and Nuts: The Willamette Valley continued to see a light apple and prune crop this year. Hazelnuts were falling heavily and harvest is underway in some locations in the Willamette Valley. The weekend rains helped to knock the Hazelnuts down. Large amounts of blanks were being reported early in the season. Apples, pears, and vineyards were in the harvest process in Douglas County. The bulk of the harvest for these fruits are expected within the next two or three weeks. Harvest of apples and pears continued in Jackson County. Early wine grapes are being picked as well. Pear and apple harvest continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Lower valley growers began post-harvest sulfur sprays and orchard cleanup. Fruit harvest of pears and apples continued in Wasco County.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 10/02/05

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	27	47	26	0
Subsoil	30	54	16	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 10/02/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	16	12	38	30
Winter wheat emerged	5	2	6	7
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.5	6.6	6.9	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 10/02/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	25	28	33	14	0

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Late hay being harvested. Voles still a major problem. Crop is very light for some apples. Hazelnut harvest began this week. Crop is looking better than predicted. Seems to have a higher level of worms than expected. Lots of blank nuts early in the season. Garlic being planted. Fall vegetables doing okay, but colder weather and some frost causing minor damage. Greenhouse & nursery crops are slowing down. Vole population high – prepare for vole damage this fall. The Willamette Valley has experienced cooler days and nights along with some light showers. This has provided crops with excellent conditions for emerging. Due to the cool, wet weather during the spring, the fruit crops here in the valley have done poorly this year.

CLACKAMAS: Heavy rain late in the week ended the prolonged dry spell. Over two inches of rain replenished the moisture in the top soil. Those growers waiting to prepare seedbeds can now wait for a break to start. Fall vegetables moving to markets. Local pumpkin patch operators are busily preparing their corn mazes etc. for the Halloween season. Limited nursery shipment out of State are underway. Livestock continue in good condition. Dryland pastures will need a little time and some warm temperatures to take advantage of this recent rain.

COLUMBIA: Lots of rain on 9/30 and through the weekend. Very cool temperatures.

COOS/CURRY: South Coast precipitation amounts at the weekend varied depending upon location. Growing degree days continued to increase at Brookings-Harbor and stayed the same at Bandon. No precipitation at Bandon. No cranberry frost events were recorded at this location during the week.

DOUGLAS: Recent rains have caused some problems with harvest of filberts and walnuts falling onto muddy ground. No losses yet, but persistent rains could cause losses. Grape growers were having some problems getting grapes harvested in muddy conditions. Quality of grapes has been impacted by cool, wet weather, and fungus. Melons, tomatoes, and other fresh crops for market are beginning to have some spoilage from recent rain. Nurseries continue to dig and burlap shrubs and conifers, and will begin to dig deciduous trees soon.

JACKSON: Most crops for the area have been harvested. Still some hay being harvested. Apple and pear harvest just finished, but still some picking being done. Grape harvest is well underway as sugar content is coming up. Lots of fall squash and pumpkins being harvested. Land for fall planting is being worked. Some fall wheat being planted. There are still lots of fresh corn, peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes and now fall onions at local farmers markets and roadside stands. Range cattle are

starting to be gathered in the higher elevations and brought back down to winter pastures and feedlots. Some weaning and sorting for sale. Most all livestock look good, but only if on good pasture that has been irrigated. Fall grass is off to a slow start even though we have had some rain. This has been a nice week for outside work. We had some light rain last weekend and had some more starting Friday night. The forecast is for a lot cooler and wetter weekend. Most irrigating districts have stopped irrigation water for the season. Lots of fall work being done in preparation for winter time.

JOSEPHINE: Harvest continues in the vineyards, some areas are later than others in their harvesting. Lots of grapes in all the vineyards. Truck gardens are winding down now. Still have corn and tomatoes with peppers and summer squash. Lots of varieties of winter squash showing up here and there. Pumpkin patches are open now. Did not see many local apples at all. Still have melons in some areas and later pears are showing up at markets. Sales are picking up in the nurseries again for fall planting of trees, shrubs, and perennials. Lawns and pastures are starting to green up again with cooler temperatures and some moisture. Mostly higher humidity with some rain that was spotty. Measurements slight in most areas. Lower elevations have seen some frost. Trees are just barely showing signs of color.

MARION: The week started out dry with warmer afternoons providing reasonable conditions for some field burning. Friday turned to heavy showers and rain continued through Sunday, greatly improving soil moisture conditions. Only four days were suitable for field work.

WASHINGTON: Red clover harvest nearly finished. Some spring planted wheat nearing harvest stage. Alfalfa down and all combining was stopped by rain. Field corn harvest for silage continues if weather permits. Berries finished. Filberts falling heavily. Walnuts swelling. Squash being harvested. Potatoes done. Sweet corn ready and being sent to processors. Other fields ready for picking. Greenhouse & nursery activity; weed control and some fertilizing occurring. Pastures wet. Growth should start with current rain.

YAMHILL: Rain, rain, beautiful rain. For the most part it has been good steady rains with breaks between and only a few down pours. It has helped knock hazelnuts down and dampen the dust as well. Plenty of planting happening before the rains hit. Hazelnut harvest began early this week for some growers. Apple and pear harvest continues. The temperatures are cooling down, with more chance of rain as the fall sets in.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Potato harvest about 50% complete. Harvest slowed by rain over the weekend.

CROOK: For Jefferson County, potato harvest began this week. Initial yields look to be average.

KLAMATH: Potato harvest continues. Some fourth cutting hay is still down. Rain and cooler temperatures this past week.

LAKE: Temperatures were below freezing in the morning. Received precipitation over the weekend. Some snow in the higher elevations. Some producers still need to harvest grain.

MALHEUR: Harvest continued on all crops until rain on Saturday, October 1, stopped everything. Good rains last weekend have helped extend the range use. However, they did not help the harvesting of beans or fourth cutting alfalfa. Onion harvest has stopped until the ground settles. Fall gathering of cattle will begin next week.

MORROW: Weekend rainfall ranged from 0.2 to 0.9 inches, depending on location. Soil water storage is well below average. Seed-zone moisture is marginal, even with the recent rains. Most farmers will delay seeding until the middle of October. We have not had a significant rain since early July. We need some to get fall green up started.

SHERMAN: Rangelands never did get much green-up this spring and it shows. Water was hauled all summer as nothing naturally occurred to fill ponds. Dry conditions are delaying seeding wheat. A few hardy souls are dusting wheat in and a couple of hardier ones have gone deep ...and received a light emergence. Most are waiting for the weekend to pass before getting too busy and hoping clouds bring some moisture.

UMATILLA: Received some much needed rain, still far short of what is needed. The time is approaching to start planting winter wheat with or without moisture.

UNION: Beet harvest underway. Fall planting progressing well. Received rain on Saturday.

WALLOWA: No changes, still very dry. Forecast is for some needed moisture.

WASCO: Field cultivation, fertilization, and grain seeding continued on a limited scale through mid-week. The first fall rain fell all over Wasco County on Friday with a few showers on Saturday and Sunday. Winter wheat planting will be picking up now that we have some top soil moisture to work with. Fruit harvest continued in The Dalles and Mosier areas on pears and apples. Wine grape harvest will soon be underway with an average size crop. Alfalfa hay growers are finished for season and livestock are holding their own on dwindling pasture conditions. Warm fall temperatures prevailed through most of week.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: October 2, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)

Station	Air temperature ¹				Growing ² Degree days		Last week precip. ³			Season cum. precipitation ⁴			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	43	66	55	-1	39	-4	1.90	1.03	4	2.28	-0.89	72	10
Bandon ⁵	41	67	54	-3	29	-14	-	-0.50	-	0.43	-1.41	23	3
Crescent City	43	64	53	-5	25	-28	0.68	0.12	5	1.02	-0.90	53	12
Florence	35	70	54	-5	28	-28	1.63	0.85	3	3.17	0.45	117	8
Tillamook	34	65	53	-4	20	-20	3.58	2.49	4	4.85	0.77	119	10
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁵	42	80	59	+2	61	+7	2.31	1.82	3	2.41	0.46	124	5
Corvallis	40	80	58	+0	58	+2	1.27	0.85	3	1.65	0.02	101	8
Detroit Lake ⁵	40	82	57	+5	54	+24	2.15	1.51	3	3.70	1.25	151	6
Eugene	38	83	60	+1	69	+6	1.24	0.82	3	1.51	-0.28	84	8
Hillsboro	39	78	58	+0	56	+6	1.59	1.17	3	1.64	0.01	101	5
McMinnville	39	80	59	+1	64	+8	1.29	0.81	3	1.69	-0.09	95	6
Portland	46	78	60	+1	72	+7	1.81	1.39	3	1.84	-0.03	98	6
Salem	41	79	59	+2	66	+12	1.93	1.51	3	3.03	1.36	181	8
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	37	86	62	+1	83	+6	0.05	-0.23	1	0.55	-0.43	56	4
Medford	39	88	62	+0	85	+8	0.08	-0.13	2	0.52	-0.40	57	6
Roseburg	42	86	62	+2	87	+15	0.80	0.52	2	1.08	-0.14	89	5
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	33	81	57	+4	57	+26	0.65	0.51	2	0.65	-0.12	84	2
Echo ⁵	37	83	60	+3	71	+15	0.24	0.17	2	0.25	-0.21	54	3
Heppner	37	84	62	+6	84	+36	0.57	0.38	2	0.57	-0.29	66	2
Hermiston	37	82	61	+3	77	+21	0.38	0.31	3	0.38	-0.08	83	3
John Day	30	84	58	+4	60	+19	0.42	0.28	3	0.44	-0.44	50	5
Madras ⁵	38	81	57	+2	54	+14	0.92	0.83	3	0.93	0.35	160	4
Moro	35	80	59	+4	65	+27	1.95	1.86	2	2.00	1.42	345	3
Parkdale ⁵	33	81	55	-2	44	-1	1.19	0.91	3	1.21	-0.01	99	4
Pendleton	40	83	61	+3	78	+20	0.37	0.23	3	0.46	-0.17	73	4
The Dalles	39	84	61	+6	79	+37	0.43	0.34	3	0.43	-0.16	73	3
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁵	25	78	51	+0	24	+1	0.20	0.01	2	0.55	-0.14	80	8
Bend	30	82	56	+5	49	+23	0.06	-0.01	1	0.19	-0.30	39	3
Burns	22	83	52	+2	25	+4	0.47	0.36	2	0.64	0.04	107	4
Christmas Valley ⁵	22	84	52	-4	28	-14	0.35	0.21	2	0.68	0.06	110	10
Klamath Falls	26	80	53	-3	36	-5	0.05	-0.09	2	0.29	-0.30	49	4
Klamath Falls ⁵	25	81	52	-4	31	-10	0.09	-0.05	3	0.29	-0.30	49	5
Lakeview	21	81	52	-2	31	-3	0.05	-0.14	1	0.21	-0.48	30	2
Lorella ⁵	24	82	51	-5	24	-17	0.37	0.23	2	0.60	0.01	102	7
Redmond	29	83	56	+3	49	+17	0.89	0.82	1	1.42	0.99	330	5
Worden ⁵	22	82	50	-6	25	-16	0.17	0.03	2	0.51	-0.08	86	5
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	23	80	50	-3	13	-16	0.39	0.25	3	0.40	-0.38	51	4
Joseph	32	78	54	+6	31	+15	0.80	0.45	3	1.15	-0.31	79	7
La Grande	27	82	55	-2	38	-4	0.57	0.34	3	0.57	-0.44	56	3
Prairie City ⁵	29	79	52	+6	30	+18	1.10	0.89	3	1.35	0.22	119	6
Union	29	86	56	+4	52	+20	0.81	0.60	2	0.84	-0.26	76	4
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	32	82	56	-2	49	-6	0.44	0.35	2	0.55	-0.02	96	5
Rome	27	83	57	+2	52	+11	0.69	0.57	3	0.94	0.32	152	7

¹ Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. ² Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. ³ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. ⁴ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005. ⁵ Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.
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